However, the Ministry of Power has sent proposals with recommendations to the Ministry of Finance to release funds to States against the projects approved by the APDP (Accelerated Power Development Programme) Monitoring Committee in the current financial year.

(c) and (d) Assistance under APDP is extended only to the State Governments in the form of additional Central Plan Assistance. As such, no funds have been allocated to National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) undr APDP.

Amalgamation of solicitor firm of Maharashtra Government with Arthur Anderson

1123. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government is guarantor for Maharashtra Government/MSEB in case of Enron Project; and

(b) whether it is a fact that in this case the solicitor firm appointed by Government of Maharashtra/MSEB has now amalgamated with Arthur Anderson Co. which has been appointed as a advisor to Enron?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) The Government of India (GOI) has issued a counter guarantee to Phase-I (740 MW) of the Dabhol Power Project (total capacity—2184 MW) of M/s Dabhol Power Company. The GOI counter guarantee covers some of the energy and capacity payments payable to Dabhol Power Company by MSEB under the Power Purchase Agreement as well as some termination payments. The counter guarantee gets invoked in the event of MSEB failing to make such due payments to Dabhol Power Company and the Government of Maharashtra as the primary guarantor, also failing to make such payments to DPC.

(b) The MSEB has informed that the solicitor firm M/s Hariyani & Co. appointed by the Government of Maharashtra was dissolved. The firm voluntarily returned the documents and informed the State Government that it was not in a position to continue to act for the Government on account of a potential conflict of interest. It is also

learned by MSEB that some individuals of the said firm joined the firm of Andersen Legal India.

Providing jobs to dependants on compassionate grounds in Thermal Power Stations

†1124. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of dependants provided jobs on compassionate grounds in Chanderpura Thermal Power Station, Bokaro Thermal Power Station and other plants under the Damodar Valley Corporation during the last three years and current year;

(b) the number of persons died in harness in such power stations and other departments during the last three years and current year;

(c) the effective steps taken by the management to provide jobs to the dependants of such employees; and

(d) the number of such cases pending with management and Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) During last three years including the current year the total number of dependants of deceased employees given employment on compassionate ground at Bokaro Thermal Power Station (BPS) is 38. No such employment has been given at Chanderpura Thermal Power Station (CTPS). In other projects, 17 persons have been given employment during the said period.

(b) During the above period, number of employees died in harness at BTPS is 18 and at CTPS is 17. The total number of employees expired during the period in other projects is 108.

(c) As per existing policy of the Corporation, 25% of regular vacancies in Group 'D' posts caused due to reitrement/death/ promotion has been reserved for appointment on compassionate ground. In addition to the above, appointment in Group 'C' posts is

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.